

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners
Date of Meeting: Thursday, August 3, 2023 – 3:00 PM
Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third St., Detroit, Michigan 48226

- I. **Chairperson QuanTez Pressley called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.**
- II. **Invocation.** Commander Chaplain Shari Lowman provided the invocation.
- III. **Introduction of Police Commissioners. A roll call was held, and a quorum was declared.**

Detroit Board of Police Commissioners' Membership / Attendance		
	In Attendance	Not-In Attendance
QuanTez Pressley, Chairperson	Yes	
Rev. Jim Holley, PhD.	Yes	
Linda D. Bernard, Esq.	Yes	
Cedric Banks	Yes	
Willie E. Bell	Yes	
Willie E. Burton	Yes	
Lisa Carter		Excused
Ricardo Moore		Excused
Jesus Hernandez	Yes	
Annie Holt	Yes	
Quorum (Yes)	8	

IV. **Announcements.**

Board Secretary Victoria Shah announced the following:

Next Community Meeting: Thursday, August 10, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., the 5th Precinct will host at WCCCD Eastern Campus – Cooper Room, 5901 Connor, Detroit, MI 48213.

Next Community Meeting: Thursday, September 17, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., the 4th Precinct will host at Kemeny Recreation Center, 5901 Connor, Detroit, MI 48213.

- V. **Chairperson Pressley** requested the approval of the Agenda for Thursday, August 3, 2023. The motion was accepted and adopted.
- VI. **Chairperson Pressley** requested the approval of the Meeting Minutes for July 27, 2023, with any corrections. The minutes were adopted as presented.
- VII. **Introductions of Board administrative and investigative staff, the Chief of Police, Elected Officials or Representatives, and Community Leaders.**
- VIII. **Chair's Report.**

Chairperson Pressley reported on BOPC activities and provided updates, and reports for the Board and the community. Chairperson Pressley commented on the vacancy and another forthcoming on the Board of Police Commissioners that will be appointed by the mayor of the city of Detroit. The mayor is open to applications for those who might be interested in serving either in District 1 or in the At-Large seat. If you are interested in applying all candidates are invited to submit their resumes by the application deadline August 10, 2023.

A. Resolution.

Commissioner Burton read the Community Recognition Resolution recognizing Brenda Hill (Posthumously).

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING “COMMUNITY ACTIONIST”
BRENDA HILL (POSTHUMOUSLY)**

WHEREAS, Brenda Hill was a regular presence at many City of Detroit government meetings, including the weekly meeting for the Board of Police Commissioners. Ms. Hill exemplified the Board’s request for community members to *Share Your Voice*. She participated regularly in public comments to speak out for police accountability and effective civilian oversight of the Detroit Police Department and other law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Hill’s journey to the Board of Police Commissioners, her powerful voice, and her self-described work as a “community actionist” sprung from a devastating personal tragedy. The 2009 murder of her son Brandan Rogers led Ms. Hill to walk away from a corporate career and dedicate herself to finding answers and justice for her family. She soon embarked on a broader mission against gun violence, poverty, and discrimination. She was a relentless fighter for results that prevent crime, social inequity, bad police practices, and failures in the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Hill founded The Women’s Delegation of Peace and Change and served on the Board of Mothers of Murdered Children. She was a supporter of many other organizations, including Crime Stoppers, which works with people and police to help solve and prevent crime. At BOPC meetings over the years, she shared how her son’s murder had gone unsolved and thanked Detroit police efforts on the cold case. Her appreciation never stopped her from criticisms she deemed necessary about DPD, Police Commissioners, or the Board. Ms. Hill always spoke passionately and sometimes tearfully about how important it is for officers and Police Commissioners to do their jobs right no matter how hard, because victims and victim families rely on the police and Board not only for justice but also for peace of mind; and,

WHEREAS, Past and present Police Commissioners knew Ms. Hill from marches as well as meetings because many shared her goals for policy changes and better public funding for education, housing, health care and other social programs essential to crime prevention. Mindful of the power of media and the ballot, Ms. Hill hosted a radio program and ran for local office. She never won election but definitely won more support for her cause. On Thursday, July 13, 2023, Ms. Hill passed away. The greater Detroit community joins with her beloved daughter, two grandchildren, and many friends in marking the loss of a dedicated leader and in celebrating the legacy of her resounding voice and the many “actionists” inspired by her to carrying on the mission of safe streets and justice for all.

THEREFORE BE IT
RESOLVED, That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the residents of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, awards this resolution posthumously to Brenda Hill in recognition of her relentless voice and dedicated work as a “community actionist” for better public safety, civilian oversight of law enforcement, and quality of life for everyone.

Commissioner Holt moved the adoption of a resolution, which was adopted as follows: “Resolved “That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the residents of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, awards this resolution posthumously to Brenda Hill in recognition of her relentless voice and dedicated work as a “community actionist” for better public safety, civilian oversight of law enforcement, and quality of life for everyone.

Commissioner Holt moved “that the Board of Police Commissioners remove Melanie White from the position of Executive Manager Policy.” The motion failed.

VOTE: YES = 4 NO = 3 ABSTAIN: 1 Motion: FAILED

Yes: Chairperson Pressley, Commissioners Bernard, Hernandez, Holt

No: Vice Chairperson Holley, Commissioners Banks, Bell

Abstain: Commissioner Burton

IX. Community Impact Report.

Chief Investigator Jerome Warfield provided information on the Citizen Complaints Report (CCR) for the month of July, the trends as it relates to citizen complaints reports and the current standing backlog cases. Currently, as of July 31, we have 793 open cases, a total of 323 backlog cases were pulled from investigators to assign to TASS workers in January 2023. Since TASS workers were not on-boarded, these cases have been worked by investigators along with the normal inventory. We are implementing a plan that will make sure to hit our numbers moving forward. As it relates to trends we are experiencing a record year in citizen complaints. We received 162 CCRs for the last two months, we are on a serious trajectory. The issue comes out to about 53 cases per investigator. A normal load for an investigator is 10 to 15 cases, so our investigators have a caseload that is not manageable by industry standards. When you look at this year versus last year, previous years we average anywhere between 1,000 to 1,335 CCRs and we are trending toward ending the year somewhere around 1,631 CCR's if the trends continues. It will be a record-breaking year by far of CCR's. Chief Investigator Warfield discussed the leading allegations procedure, followed by service, followed by demeanor listing a breakout of allegations by each precinct. See the attached Meeting Transcripts posted to the Board's webpage.

The following inquiries require responses from the BOPC and/or DPD: **Commissioner Bernard** commented that a distinction is being made between what we call age cases versus new cases in terms of assignments, and I don't understand. Why is it important **Commissioner Hernandez** commended Chief Investigator Warfield on the better view of data, the report and data is being sliced in ways that we previously didn't have insight? Do we have a capture of complaints submitted in other languages? Because if the answer is no, then, if we are not capturing it. Then it doesn't exist and that's a problem. So how many translator touchpoints are a part of these? Commissioner Hernandez expressed what I'm trying to articulate here is on the back of report. It says that no one can be turned away. But if we don't have the right tools, we inherently are turning them away. **Commissioner Bell** addressed the backlog cases. We have been in the backlog for quite some time. We were in a backlog in terms of the consent agreement. The only way we got out of that was we were allowed to bring on DPD personnel, and they somewhat got us out of the backlog process. **Commissioner Holt** inquired about the backlog cases. **Commissioner Holley** said when we hired the Chief Investigator, the first thing I asked was, what are your plans to get rid of the backlog? Are you meeting with the police department to make sure demeanor, service and all these three categories, to keep the problems from coming in? See the attached Meeting Transcripts posted to the Board's webpage.

X. Chief of Police Report: Chief of Police's Summary of CompStat Data and other Crime Information/DPD Information:
Deputy Chief Mark Bliss reported on current CompStat Crime/Statistical Data for Violent Crime and Property; Drifting and Drag Racing and recent critical incidents impacting the DPD and the community. See the attached Meeting Transcripts posted to the Board's webpage.

The following inquiries require responses from the BOPC and/or DPD: **Commissioner Bernard** congratulated Detroit Police Department and Detroit Fire Department on National Night Out. **Commissioner Banks** on behalf of his family thanked Chief White and the Detroit Police Department on their support with the passing of his uncle. **Commissioner Holt** inquired when the Board could expect to have a presentation on BWC.

XI. Oral Communications / Public Comments.

Ms. Bernice Smith, Lieutenant Mark Young, Minister Eric Blount, Ms. Karen Gordon, Mr. Ronald Foster, Ms. Charnita Williams, Ms. Michelle George, Ms. Sheila Harris, 124, Ms. Denise Lyles and Former Commissioner William Davis provided public comments.

XII. Report from Board Secretary / Communications Submitted to BOPC as incoming information:

1. 20230731 Arrest Notification to BOPC
2. Administrative Assistants Applicants July 2023
3. 20230721 Opinion – BOPC Final Discipline Authority
4. 20230721 Opinion – BOPC Record and Evidence Retention
5. 20230721 Opinion – BOPC – Board Vacancies

6. 20230721 Opinion – BOPC – Sec 7-809 Hearing Open to the Public
7. 20230721 Opinion – BOPC Subpoena Authority

Board Secretary Shah indicated a presentation of the history and overview of BOPC and OCI will be presented to DPD student police officer class any commissioner who would like to attend is welcome. In regards to the annual reports, DPD Budget, disciplinary enforce data are still needed to complete the annual report. Some disciplinary data was received by the Board's office today, and is being reviewed, and then we will check with DPD on any outstanding information that may be needed to finish the annual report. Commissioners continue to review the draft and provide feedback until the final draft is passed to the Board for approval. The last update is around staffing. BOPC is budgeted for two non-union Investigator positions, and that is out of compliance with the union agreement. The Investigator classification is currently governed by UAW L212 Collective Bargaining Agreement, so non-union Investigators may be appointed by the Board. The Budget was approved for two non-union Investigators. There is a recommendation to have staff submit a position amendment to convert those two job codes from non-union to union. We are replacing both job codes and submitting a requisition to recruit. That will allow OCI to recruit and fill the two open Investigator positions, adding to the staff and assisting with the backlog cases. The position will be posted with a starting salary not to exceed \$52,500 in order to remain compliant with the current budgeted amount. To make this change the final appointment will be made by the vote of the Board.

XIII. New Business.

Commissioner Holt moved "that the Board of Police Commissioners adopt the Board Secretary's recommendation to submit a position amendment to remove two non-union Investigator positions and replace them with two union Investigator positions and begin the recruiting process for two union Investigators." The motion passed.

VOTE: YES = 8 NO = 0 Motion: PASSED

Yes: Chairperson Pressley, Vice Chairperson Holley, Commissioners Bernard, Banks, Bell, Burton, Hernandez, Holt

Commissioner Burton moved "that the Board of Police Commissioners allow public speakers an additional 20 seconds for public comments." There was no second to the motion.

XIV. Adjournment.

Chairperson Pressley adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m.